

File

1961 NAZIS IN NEW ORLEANS

	<u>AGE</u>
George Lincoln Rockwell - Commander	43
Ralph Lee Hassinger - Troop Leader	23
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Paul Edward Dukel	21
Charles Beveridge	21
Anthony Edward Wells	23
Robert Washington Johnston	23
Roy James	23
John Patler - Bus driver	23
Bernard David - Bus driver	

ROCKWELL, George Lincoln WM 43 E-11897-61
928 Randolph St. Arlington, Va. 3-19-18

5-24-61

1712

-1st

RS 14-103-7 Relative to disturbing the peace by
commission of an act in such a manner as to
unreasonably disturb and alarm the public

Giarrusso, Trosclair, Stevens, Echelard, Pisa,
Kott, Fernandez, Martello, Leonard, Delpidio,
Spako, Grego, Parta, Caruso, Duzac

500 Block of Baronne St.

170-957

Office of the Intelligence Division
New Orleans Police Department
New Orleans, Louisiana
May 30, 1961
Ltr #20-1107-51 - 20th "5"

TO : Joseph A. Guillot, Acting Superintendent of Police
FROM : Presly J. Tranchesi, Jr., Commanding, Intelligence Division
SUBJECT: Supplemental Report relative to the arrest of GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL, of AFB, from the 500 Block of Baronne Street, on the night of Wednesday, May 24, 1961.

On Saturday, May 20, 1961, this Department received a telegram from a person who signed his name as George Lincoln Rockwell, Commander of the American Nazi Party, Arlington, Virginia, which stated his intention to come to this city for the purpose of picketing the Headquarters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Nation Picture "Exodus."

Prior to the receipt of this telegram letters had been received from Mr. John Roberts, the Manager of the Civic Theatre, 533 Baronne Street. Each of these letters bore a small white sticker on the top of the sheet which was partially colored with red paint, having a black Swastika in a white circle with the words "WE ARE BACK" printed in black. These letters bore the return address of Box 1381, Arlington, Virginia, the National Headquarters of the American Nazi Party. It was observed that each letter bore the postmark New Orleans, La. Copies of these letters are attached and are self-explanatory. Several of these letters said, "REMEMBER BOSTON" and practically all of the letters said, "RIGHT NOW-TIME FOR NIGGER TYRANNY: JOIN AMERICAN NAZI PARTY." The last letter received was on Monday, May 22, 1961, and read as follows, "JOIN COMMUNIST - JOIN - The commander is coming May 24, 1961, Rail Hitler." All of these letters were signed by the group leader, Greater New Orleans Group American Nazi Party. (WITNESS to the above MR. JOHN A. ROBERTS, 5001 Vicksburg Street, New Orleans, La., or c/o Civic Theatre, 533 Baronne Street).

On Monday, May 22, 1961, a news article appeared in the New Orleans Times-Picayune newspaper, which announced the coming of the American Nazi Party to New Orleans, via several cities in the South. It was noted in the last paragraph that George Lincoln Rockwell, Commander of the American Nazi Party, was quoted by a United Press International Reporter that, "NEW ORLEANS IS A REAL HOT SPOT WHERE HE FEELS HE CAN GET IN TROUBLE." (WITNESS: United Press International News Reporter---???)

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IOG to Acting Supt. Joseph
A. Sullivan (Continued)
Subject: Surveillance Report re-
lated to the arrest of
George Lincoln Rockwell.
at New Orleans.

5/30/61

- 2 -

Having had some information concerning the American Nazi Party and its operations, the Department of Police proceeded to execute elaborate plans as precautionary measures to prevent any serious trouble in our city. In an effort to prevent any possible mob instructions were issued to all district commanders to direct their subordinates to make frequent visits in the area of all Jewish Institutions in the City of New Orleans, and the Headquarters of the NAACP, knowing that the American Nazi Party is anti-Jewish, anti-Negro, and pro-the showing of the film Exodus. The Department of Police was also cognizant of the presence of over two-hundred Jewish refugees in our Jewish population of approximately ten thousand. The Department therefore realized the ingredients which were being brought together and could ultimately result in a full-scale riot.

George Lincoln Rockwell accompanied by Roy Jasss, both of the American Nazi Party arrived at the Moriant International Airport at 1:45 PM. on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 23, 1961. A surveillance was immediately established on these persons in an effort to prevent any problems which may occur because of their presence in the city, and the increased tension created by the advanced publicity of the News-papers and by the letter which had been received by our local citi-zenry. (WITNESSES to amount of Jews in New Orleans - Mr. Irvin Schulman, 1527 Gov. Nicholls St.).

That same night at approximately 10:00 PM, police officers of this Department met several units of the Louisiana State Police at the junction of U. S. Highways 11 and 90. These police units had been following and escorting a Volkswagen Bus which had been described as "LINDOLIN ROCKWELL'S RACE BUS." It was noted that this bus was occu-pied by five white males and had painted on the Bus "AS RACE JEW-CONOMISM" --- "AS DO RACE RACE KILLING" --- "LINDOLIN ROCKWELL'S RACE BUS." The Bus along with its occupants John Farler, Bernard David, Jr., Andrew Chappell and Ralph Hassinger was kept under surveillance by members of this Police Department from the time it was intercepted at the junction. The occupants of the bus stopped for refreshments at the Indian Lake Restaurant & Trailer Court on the Chef Menteur Highway. At approximately 10:30 PM, Captain J. L. Truesclair, Jr., approached the driver of the Bus who furnished his name as John Farler and advised him that if he intended to remain in the City of New Orleans with the Bus, he must either cover up the lettering on the Bus or remove it from same before proceeding into the city. John Farler was quoted Revised Statutes of 1960, Title 14, Article, Paragraph 7. After a discussion Farler agreed to remove the signs he could from the Bus and cover the remaining ones which

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100 to Acting Supt. Joseph
A. Trosclair

5/30/61

Re: Telephone call from person
relative to the arrest of
George Lincoln Rockwell,
St. Paul.

He and his group were unable to receive at that time. (WITHHELD to
all of above: Sergeant Joseph L. Diarrusso, Deputy Superintendent
Joseph A. Gaillet, Captain F. S. Trosclair, Sergeant John
Piza, Patrolman Ralph Finkel).

This group had drawn the attention and concern of every law enforcement
agency along their route from Arlington, Virginia, to and in-
cluding the City of New Orleans.

The following morning, Wednesday, May 24, 1961, the group was followed
to the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain while they were en-route
to Fontainebleau State Park. On learning that the park was closed
this group was returning to New Orleans via the Lake Pontchartrain
Causeway when the bus was involved in an accident. The driver of the
bus Bernard Davis, Jr., was taken into custody in the Parish of Jef-
ferson for the violations he committed in that jurisdiction.

The group in the bus was joined by another group in a Chevrolet auto-
mobile and finally came to the city and met with their commander,
George Lincoln Rockwell, in Room 1004, New Orleans Hotel, 1000 Canal
Street.

At 11:25 AM, on Wednesday, May 24, 1961, a person who furnished his
name as Lincoln Rockwell called Police Headquarters and spoke to
Captain Trosclair. This person explained that he and members of the
American Nazi Party intended picketing Corpus Christi Church and the
movie Riodus, starting at about 7:00 PM, that night, Wednesday, May
24, 1961, and continuing for about two hours. He requested informa-
tion concerning the amount of pickets allowed and if there were any
restrictions as to the wording of the signs carried by the pickets.
Captain Trosclair informed him to use his own discretion and judgment
in the wording of the signs and that the usual procedure was to allow
only two pickets in front of each establishment to be picketed with
no relief pickets in the area. This person further requested informa-
tion regarding the possibility of making a speech in a public place
such as a park. Captain Trosclair notified this person that he would
call him back on the telephone and give him an answer. Captain Tros-
clair called the New Orleans Hotel and asked to be connected with
Room 1004, at 11:27 AM, at which time he informed a person on the
other end of the line who gave his name as Rockwell that he would not
be permitted to make a speech here in New Orleans due to the present
situation. (Sergeant John Piza witnessed first telephone call and
Sergeant Francis Martello witnessed the second conversation).

It is the policy of the Department of Police to permit persons to
picket any place in the City of New Orleans as long as there are no

[Handwritten signature]

100 to Acting Supt. Joseph

A. Guillot (Continued)

5/5/61

Subj: Semi-Annual Report relative to the arrest of George Lincoln Rockwell, et al.

problems created by their presence, that they are not in violation of, or cause a violation of any existing ordinances or statutes.

At approximately 1:30 PM, that same afternoon, Wednesday, May 24, 1961, Sergeant William Guillot of the Detective Bureau, who was on duty at the New Orleans Hotel, which houses the members of the Nazi Party, reported that he had overheard parts of a conversation being stationed in a room next to Room 1004. Sgt. Guillot reported that he had heard some mention about the use of a shot gun and that some further mention about a BB gun in place of a shot gun. (WITNESSES: Sgt. William Guillot, Detective Bureau)

Along with other officers the undersigned, Captain P. J. Tremblair, Jr., was detailed in the vicinity of the Dixie Theatre, 533 Baronne Street, as a precautionary measure in the event any problems were created by the presence of the Nazi group picketing the theatre.

There was a steady downpour of rain from approximately 7:00 PM until about 7:45 PM, which rain caused the streets to flood and the water to creep up on the sidewalks. Persons were being brought to the theatre in taxi cabs and private vehicles, and alighting from their vehicles in the passenger zone directly in front of the main entrance to the theatre. Traffic was not too heavy and appeared to be flowing normally. A small group of persons was observed standing near the corner of Poydras Street, on the river side of the 500 block of Baronne Street, in front of the entrance to the Southern Bell Telephone Company. Some patrons had entered the theatre to view the film "Exodus" which was scheduled to start at 8:00 PM. Others were standing around in the passage way which approaches the theatre.

At approximately 7:45 PM, a green chevrolet pulled in front of the theatre with several white males wearing arastikas on their left arm. Two of these persons George Lincoln Rockwell and Roy James alighted from the vehicle carrying signs. Rockwell's sign contained the following words, "AMERICAN LEADERS CONDEMN EXODUS." Rockwell carried another poster which had printed on one side, "EXODUS.....Written by a Communist Jew" then on the other side, "AMERICAN FOR WHITES - AMERICAN AGAINST - GAS CHAMBER FOR TRAITORS." These two men began to walk in a picket fashion in front of the theatre.

There was a slight drizzling rain at the time and as the persons started to picket it was observed by the officers on duty that the persons on the opposite side of the street were increasing in number, and also the crowd in the passage way approaching the theatre began to swell and overflow onto the sidewalk. The officers were concerned

[Handwritten signature]

IOG to Arlington, Joseph
A. Guillet (Continued)
Subj: Supplemental Report re-
relative to the arrest of James
Lincoln Rockwell,
ET AL.

5/19/61

about the information which had been furnished by Sergeant William Guillet earlier in the evening. Consequently, two officers from the Headquarters Tactical Unit, Patrolmen T. Parta and L. Caruso, who were passing in front of the theatre as Rockwell and James alighted from the car were directed to check the remaining occupants in the vehicle. After Rockwell and James had made about two or three passes on foot with the signs in front of the theatre Captain Troscclair approached Rockwell and told him that the crowds were gathering and things were too tense, therefore as a preventive measure he would not be permitted to picket and remain in the area. Lincoln Rockwell turned and looked, and hesitated momentarily but the crowds appeared to be pressing forward from the lobby of the theatre and the people on the opposite side of the street commenced to move down the block in the general direction in which Rockwell had started to walk. It was immediately decided that unless the police acted quickly and eliminated the source of the trouble in the area that the crowd, at that time without a leader, may develop into a mob and become engaged in a physical encounter with the members of the American Nazi Party.

The officers had no other alternative, in the interest of public safety, but to enforce RS 14, Article 103, Paragraph 7, and take into custody those persons who had committed an act in such a manner as to unreasonably disturb and alarm the public. (WITNESSES in front of Civic Theatre, 7:45 PM, Wednesday, May 24, 1961. First group of arrests. Superintendent Giarrusso, Captain Edward Stevens, Captain P. J. Troscclair, Jr., Sergeant Arnel Echeland, Sgt. Francis Martello, Officer Bernard Fruchtwerg, Patrolman George Delpidio, Patrolman Parta, Patrolman Caruso and Sergeant Bernard Fernandez.) WITNESSES to second group of arrests at 8:15 PM, Superintendent Giarrusso, Captain Edward Stevens, Sergeant Arnel Echeland and Patrolman George Delpidio).

It should be noted at this time that Rockwell had disregarded previous arrangements, as are made with all persons picketing in this city to keep the relief pickets out of the area. When he drove up to the main entrance to the Civic Theatre in a car containing a total of six persons in Khaki uniform with swastikas on their left arm.

Immediately after Rockwell and James were stopped or almost simultaneously with their action, the Tactical Officers, Parta and Caruso, removed a realistic appearing toy gun together with a scalloped-type knife from the vehicle in which the Nazis had been riding. All of the six persons were taken into custody and conveyed to the First Police District, 501 North Hampart Street, where they were booked and interviewed, after which they were photographed and fingerprinted.

These persons, on arrival at the district station furnished their names

A. Buillett (Continued)
Supplementary report re-
lative to the arrest of
George Lincoln Rockwell,
et al.

5/26/61

Re George Lincoln Rockwell, WM, age 33, 1928, WM, age 25, Paul
Edward Baker, WM, age 21, Robert Washington Johnson, WM, age 21;
Anthony Edward Barker, WM, age 21; and Charles Beveridge, WM, age 21;
all furnishing the residence address as 828 North Randolph Street,
Arlington, Virginia.

Shortly after these persons had been conveyed to the district station,
the Volkswagen Bus described in the initial report under the same
item number arrived in the passenger zone in front of the Civic Theatre.
The following four persons were taken into custody from this vehicle:
John Feller, WM, age 23; Ralph Lee Hestinger, WM, age 23; Seth David
Egan, WM, age 22, and Andrew Newman Chapcott, WM, age 25. They also
furnished the same residence address in Arlington, Virginia. Details
of the circumstances surrounding their arrests is explained in the
initial report under item number under date of May 25, 1961, which
has previously been submitted through channels to the Central Records
Division and the Office of the Honorable District Attorney.

Attached hereto as exhibits in the case, find copies of letters which
were sent to the Manager of the Civic Theatre, Mr. John Roberts; a
copy of an article from the New Orleans States Item Newspaper, dated
Monday, May 22, 1961; a list of evidence which was submitted to the
Property Clerk's Office of the Criminal District Court; photographs
of the Volkswagen Bus; photographs of members of the American Nazi
Party in uniform; and photographs of the people on the opposite side
of Baronne Street, immediately after Rockwell and his followers were
taken into custody.

Vehicular and pedestrian traffic was unusually heavy in the 500 block
of Baronne Street, during the time of this incident notwithstanding the
fact that immediately prior to the arrests there was an unusually
heavy downpour of wind-driven rain; this was a Wednesday night, at 7:45
PM, and some of the business establishments in the area, excluding the
theatre, appeared to be open for business at that time. (PHOTOGRAPHS
of vehicles and pedestrians, etc., Officer Bernard Fruchtweig).

The following is some of the information which was learned from the
interviews with the persons arrested. None of them live in New Or-
leans; none of them attend school locally; none of them have any
relatives in New Orleans; and none of them work in New Orleans.

A copy of this supplementary report shall be submitted to the Honorable
Richard A. Bowling, District Attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Sergeant, Arlington Police Division

ATTN: [illegible]
ATTN: [illegible]

To: Superintendent of Police

From: Captain Edward J. Stearns, District Commander

Subject: A report to the effect of the following named subjects
from the 100 block of Vermont Street, between 7:45 P.M. and
8:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 24, 1961 who had in the First
District Station with a view of causing a disturbance by
disturbing the peace by commission of an act in such a way as
to unreasonably disturb the public.

1. Seth David Area, 44 1/2, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
2. Andrew Newton Chappell, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
3. John Lee Davidson, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
4. John Taylor, 44 1/2, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
5. John E. Baker, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
6. Charles Leverette, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
7. Anthony M. Ellis, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
8. Johnson, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
9. Ray Jones, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.
10. George William Rockwell, 27, 43, 944 N. Randolph, Arlington, Va.

I would respectfully report of having been notified to report
to the Superintendent of Police, Joseph A. DiMuro, along with the follow-
ing named members of this organization:

Captain R. J. Truscalf, Sgt. Arnel Echeland, Sgt. John Lira,
Sgt. Walter Kott, Sgt. Bernard Farnsworth, Sgt. Francis Martello, Det. Sgt.
Mervin Leonard, Det. George Delafino, Det. Henry S. Cho, Det. Earl Greco,
Det. Louis Dumas, Det. J. J. Smith, Det. L. Caruso for a security detail
in and around the Civic Theatre located at 933 Cammie St. This detail
under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of Police, at about
6:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 24, 1961. Various other members of the Department
were detailed in mobile units, on patrol duty in this area. Information
had been received that an organization who were known as the "G.I. Club"
members of the American Nazi Party, and a few known as the "White Bus"
were to arrive in this area and it was suspected that the appearance of
these persons, who were to be dressed in khaki uniform wearing swastika
armbands would possibly create a general disturbance in and about the area
of the Civic Theatre before or during the showing of a film titled "Marching"
at the New Orleans Hotel.

This group had been, for almost twenty-four hours under constant
surveillance by uniformed and plain-clothes members of various divisions
of this department. Various members of this organization arrived within the
area prior to 10:00 P.M. Tuesday, May 23, 1961 and on arrival
at the Civic Theatre Court on the 24th of May, 1961 and on arrival
the latter identified himself as the "G.I. Club" and the "White Bus".
This group arrived in the area at the Civic Theatre on Tuesday evening.
This man identified himself as George William Rockwell and had been a guest
at the New Orleans Hotel.

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The members of the organization were traveling in two vehicles, one a 1961 Chevrolet, 2-door, motorcycle model, bearing District of Columbia license # 25 476-12, and a 1961 Ford, 4-door station wagon, bearing 1961 Virginia license # 22A-412. These vehicles were owned by Benjamin D. Harris of 1911 Illinois St. N.W., Washington, D.C. Harris gave the owner of the Ford on May 11, 1961 for a period of 6 days on the Chevrolet and for a period of 1 year on the Ford, for the sum of \$350.00.

On this date, May 24, 1961 there was a very hard rainfall which subsided shortly before 7:45 P.M. When the rain began to subside, the Chevrolet vehicle containing Harris arrived in front of the Civic Theatre with the following, later identified, named persons in the vehicles:

1. Anthony J. Jalis, operator of the car.
2. George Lincoln Rockwell
3. James Ray
4. Robert Washington Johnson
5. Anthony Edward Jalis
6. Charles Cavanaugh
7. Paul Edward Babel

George Lincoln Rockwell and James Ray alighted from the vehicle carrying signs, posters which read, "America for Whites, Africa for Blacks", and "Gods Chamber for Traitors". and "Xenos written by Communist Jew B. and, American Legion condemns Babel". These men began to walk in a picket fashion in front of the theatre, as the heavy rain was stopping. They walked approximately 40 feet in one direction and 40 feet in another, at the curb in front of the entrance to the Civic Theatre. During this time it was observed by the officers on the detail that a large crowd had begun to gather on both sides of the street, on the sidewalk in the 500 block of Monroe as well as the passageway leading to the theatre. It was then obvious that these men were in violation of the law and they together with the others who arrived with them in the Chevrolet automobile were placed under arrest. It was in the interest of public safety and to prevent a general disturbance which was being generated by the actions of the members of this organization that the arrests were made. A search of the Chevrolet was made by Supt. T. Potts and other officers on the scene of the arrest (as named herein) for contraband or evidence, at the scene of arrest. A realistic looking toy gun and a large blade knife were confiscated from under the front seat of this vehicle, which had been occupied by members of the organization. This gun and knife were retained as possible evidence and entered in the evidence book at the First District Station, after being marked for identification by Supt. Potts. The arrested subjects were conveyed to the First District Station in various police vehicles which were on the scene, where they were booked as stated herein.

Shortly after the removal of the six arrested parties from the scene, at about 8:00 P.M. May 24, 1961 the Volkswagen station wagon, as described herein arrived in the passenger zone in front of the Civic Theatre. On the arrival of the two out of the members of the organization, one of the men as it is alleged and the arrest of these people was ordered by the Superintendent of Police at this time for the same reasons as stated above.

-Continued-

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[illegible]

Francis Martello of the Intelligence Division of this Department interrogated the arrested subjects. All admitted being members of the American Nazi Party. They believed the purpose of their party is to bring Communism, integration and race to political power. That the party is three years old with about 2500 members and chapters have traveled a number of states without arrests. All of the arrested parties, at the time of their arrest were wearing KKKH uniforms with camouflage armbands, red bands, white circular shields, black sashes, blue dots in center of forehead. Each arrested confiscated from the individual parties and marked for future identification and held as possible evidence. Rockwell is identified as the commander of the party. Hunsinger, group leader, Ryan as the Secretary of the party, Chappell, Steve Trooper, Salter as Editor of Nationalist Socialist Bulletin.

Headquarters notified via a copy of these minutes.
Office of the District Attorney to be completed and in service
of this office your disposition will be made of this matter.

2014

Respectfully,
[Signature]

[Signature]
Captain James A. Stoen,
1st Airborne Commander

1. *John P. ...*
 2. *John P. ...*
 3. *John P. ...*
 4. *John P. ...*
 5. *John P. ...*
 6. *John P. ...*
 7. *John P. ...*
 8. *John P. ...*
 9. *John P. ...*
 10. *John P. ...*

DETAILS

*Disturbing the peace
 by commission of a act
 in such a manner as to
 unnecessarily disturb or
 alarm the public*

NO. *25-44-1037*
 DATE OF OFFICE *5/3/61*
 AT *1st*
 DISTRICT *1st*
 PAROLE *NO*
 BOND SUGGESTED *500.00*

A. H. Klemm
 Assistant District Attorney

170.951